

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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MIKE KRUSEE

CHAIRMAN, HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEES:
TRANSPORTATION
PENSIONS & INVESTMENTS
REDISTRICTING

June 5, 2006

Received 6/13/06

Victoria Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

FD 34284

Dear Ms. Rutson:

The intent of this letter is to convey to you the critical need for construction materials, particularly crushed stone, in the state of Texas today. Current demand for construction aggregates far outpaces supply, with forecasts showing increasing demand in the years to come. Our economy in Texas is growing rapidly and the need for additional sources of construction materials has never been greater. In addition, the promulgation of the Trans Texas Corridor, a comprehensive trunk system proposed by Governor Rick Perry and approved by our State Legislature, and the influx of additional federal highway dollars from the recently signed Transportation Act have greatly enhanced the demand for aggregate materials in road construction.

Presently, the state of Texas has several proposed quarry operations being considered by state and federal governmental authorities for permit applications. When these proposed facilities begin operation, they will bring valuable sources of construction materials to alleviate the material shortages existing today. Specifically, the quarry and rail projects currently proposed by Vulcan Materials Company in Medina County, Texas will be an important new source of construction aggregates, particularly in Houston and all along the rapidly growing Texas Gulf Coast.

As the chairman of the House Committee on Transportation in the Texas State Legislature, I am writing to urge you to expedite the review of this important project so that our state may benefit from this much needed resource. Thank you for your attention to this request. If you have any further questions on this or any other matter, do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Mike Krusee

Mike Krusee



District 52